

Hinchey Road Rehab Project – Public Input Q&A

1. **Question:**

Wondering if any considerations have been made for installing a sidewalk? Many pedestrians walk and ride bikes along this road.

Answer:

Concrete sidewalks along Monroe County Roads are owned and maintained by the individual towns. The Town of Gates did not express an interest in having sidewalks constructed along Hinchey Road as part of this project, or in the near future. The 6' wide asphalt shoulders which are being installed by the project can be utilized by bicyclists and pedestrians.

2. **Question:**

The red line indicates highway boundary is 33 feet from the center of road. I believe my property line starts at 25 feet from the center of Hinchey Road.

Answer:

The research our surveyors did showed a 66' wide total County easement dating back to the late 1800's (commonly referred to as a "4-rod road"), so it would be approximately 33' from the centerline. Our project would limit permanent features to approximately 17.5' from the centerline (11' travel lane, 6' shoulder and a 0.5' wide curb), but there will be some grading work and re-seeding beyond that limit.

3. **Question:**

While your survey indicates around 35mph in the 85th percentile, I can tell you that the rest of that survey should reflect speeds considerably higher, more like 50 MPH.

Answer:

Our research showed very good adherence to the 35mph posted speed limit; there is still 15% of vehicles that may be traveling in excess. We have reached out to Gates Police Department to ask for increased patrol of this area.

4. **Question:**

By widening the road and including 6 ft. shoulders, you are creating a speed way, and it will become even more dangerous for pedestrians at these higher speeds.

Answer:

We have typically seen only a minimal increase, if any, in pre-construction posts speeds vs after these types of projects. The character of the road determines the speeds motorists are comfortable traveling; the high density of driveways on this corridor, traffic signals, intersections, and horizontal curves help to influence speeds more so than available shoulder width.

Monroe County has a similar “complete streets” policy to all of New York State, where we evaluate roads for use by all users (cars, trucks, bicycles, and pedestrians) and add reasonable accommodations when appropriate. Pedestrians and bicyclists benefit greatly from having a shoulder to utilize; it also helps with drainage and reduces conflicts with post office vehicles/garbage trucks/deliveries, etc...

5. Question:

The weight limit on Hinchey road is 4 tons maximum. In addition to the usual delivery vehicles and utility trucks, I have seen many 18 wheelers on Hinchey road, so the weight limit is not enforced. By widening the road with 6 foot of asphalt, you are encouraging a truck route on a residential street. In addition, one of these days, they are going to clip power lines stretched across the street.

Answer:

All power lines should be high enough to provide adequate vertical clearance. We will review the signs for the weight posting to ensure they meets current standards (both size and installation location(s)). We can also request additional police enforcement.

Please note that Hinchey Road is not a residential side street; it is a County road as such all vehicles and types should be allowed to use it. It is currently posted 4ton limit at both ends due to poor (wet) subgrade/pavement. After improvements to the roadway, we may need to re-evaluate the need for a restriction.

6. Question:

I have rarely seen evidence of flooding, and a curb will become a hindrance for snow plows and obstacle for driveways.

Answer:

We have maintenance records of showing many drainage issues throughout the corridor. Sometimes you may not notice standing water in the road (or even in lawn areas), but the roadway subgrade is completely saturated which leads to premature failure of the road surface (and subsurface), which we are also seeing.

7. Question:

There is no doubt that Hinchey Road needs to be rehabilitated and I encourage the long overdue repaving, but I think you are creating more safety problems with this project than you realize. The City is migrating into Gates, but the rest of Gates is not being treated as a thoroughfare.

Answer:

We need to provide the necessary infrastructure to handle increasing traffic volumes throughout the county. I suspect that Hinchey Road has seen some unusually high traffic the past few years since the construction work at I-

390/490 has been ongoing. Hopefully you will see some relief in volumes once those projects are completed.

8. Question:

Can deer warning signs be installed on Hinchey Road?

Answer:

Accident data was reviewed and only two deer collisions were noted during a 3-year period; this does not meet the warrants to have warning signs installed.

9. Question:

Does the widening of the road to add shoulders reduce our property tax?

Answer:

The proposed work is already in the Monroe County Easement and there will unfortunately be no change to your property taxes.

10. Question:

There have been many water main breaks along our street. The water authority has said the pipework is antiquated. Is there a plan to have that system replaced when the new drainage system is installed?

Answer:

There is no plan for a full replacement of the watermain on Hinchey Road; however we are coordinating the water authority and anticipate some relocations and repairs to the line.